



Scan this with your Smartphone's QR Reader for more information along the trail. Download a free QR reader App using the Market feature on your android phone.

WHAT YOU MAY ENCOUNTER

Native plants and trees

Cattle forage plants

Wildlife scat and tracks

Permian red beds

The Canadian River

Barbed wire

Insects

Birds

Reptiles

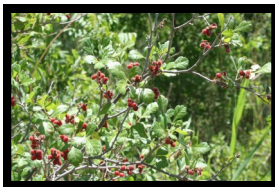
Plums, grapes, and berries

Riparian environment

Oil and Gas Facilities

Geological formations

Mullinaw family history



Fun Fact

Lemon Sumac, a bush growing wild in the Texas Panhandle, can be used to make natural lemonade. It has plenty of vitamins and nutrients and the wildlife and birds love it.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Lake Meredith Recreation Area

P.O. Box 1460
419 E. Broadway
Fritch, Texas 79036
(806) 857-3151
www.nps.gov/alf1

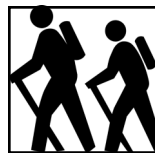
Regulations:

All natural features, plants, animals, archeological sites, and historical objects are protected by federal law.

Hiking Essentials

1. Water
2. Hat
3. Pack—to carry essentials
4. Appropriate footwear

Hike Smart and Have Fun



Leave No Trace

If you don't want this brochure, please place in the box

Mullinaw Trails



Lake Meredith
National Recreation Area



Take a hike along the Canadian River and see:

**Birds, Wildlife, Plants, Geology, and More!
Learn about Conservation Topics**

Self-guided Tour

Mullinaw Trails

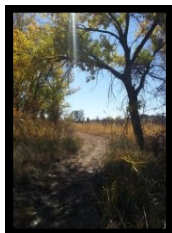
1. Trailhead—Stop one

Enjoy a beautiful hike in one of the most picturesque canyons in the Texas Panhandle. Learn about natural and cultural history, science, and conservation. The Mullinaw Trail System consists of three trails totaling 6.3 miles when combined. Hike safely along the beautiful Canadian River. Look for animal tracks and scat along the trail.



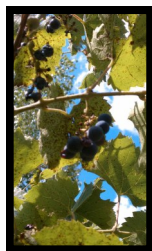
2. Cottonwood—Stop two

The Panhandle of Texas has several native trees you will see along the trail. The largest tree nearby is a cottonwood. With the following formula, you can determine its age. First, measure up the tree 4.5 feet & then around the tree. Divide this measurement by 3.14 & multiply by 2. How old is the cottonwood?



3. Native Plants—Stop three

Why should we conserve native plants? Along the trail you will see several plants such as wild grapes and sand plums. In journals dating back to 1601, explorers wrote about seeing these plants along the Canadian River. These journals mention the same plants you see along the trail today.



4. Fire Ecology—Stop four

A powerful wind, or microburst, stormed through this area and destroyed many branches in these cottonwoods. This deadwood was cut by NPS fire to reduce fuel for new fires. Controlled burns are also conducted to prevent future fire disasters in this dry area of the Panhandle.



*"I'm glad I shall never be young
without wild country to be young in."*

~Aldo Leopold 1887-1948

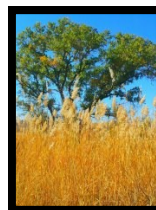
5. Birds—Stop five

Look in the tops of the huge cottonwoods and you may see birds resting. Some fall migrants include: the bald eagle, yellow warbler, osprey, and Cooper's hawk. Some spring migrant birds include: turkey vultures, Mississippi kites, and painted buntings, which fly all the way from the Bahamas, approximately three thousand miles.



6. Botany/Geology—Stop six

As you are hiking, can you identify the giant cane reed along the trail? Early settlers could have used the cane reed as a snorkel to breathe underwater and hide from hostile enemies. Look up to the east and you will see many white rocks called dolomite. Notice how many are amazing balancing acts of nature.



7. "The Mighty Canadian"—Stop seven

If you are lucky, you may see the Canadian River flowing after a rain. The "Mighty Canadian" has not changed over time. It is either flowing peacefully, raging, or could be completely dry. This river is 906 miles long and flows through four states: Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma.



8. Water—Stop eight

Along the trail, there are several raised barriers, or berms. A berm is a level or raised barrier separating two areas. The berm you are standing on was created by a natural event, the shifting of the Canadian River channel. Along the trail, look for signs of how high the waters have been.

9. "The Baby Cottonwood"—Stop nine

In the center of the trail, locate the baby cottonwood, whose birthday is around April 17, 2012. This cottonwood was not on the trail during the first phase of development, but sprouted up in the spring. NPS will monitor baby tree's growth and see if it grows as fast as botanists predict.



10. Pipeline—Stop ten

Look to the east and observe the scar on the mesa. What do you

think caused this break in the landscape? This scar resulted from a 2010 pipeline project implemented by an energy company. The National Park Service plays a pivotal role in oil and gas development in the parks. Energy companies help with restoration after the projects.



11. Weather—Stop eleven

Look at the large boulders of dolomite along the blue trail which have rolled down the mesa to form a possible shelter. In Texas, storms can arise very suddenly and become very severe. These storms can be so terrific, a traveler must head for the nearest sheltered place to save their lives.



12. Restoration Project—Stop twelve

The Resources Division of the NPS conducts many restoration projects. This area will soon be restored to its natural prairie state. Habitat loss is the leading cause of both species extinctions and ecosystem service decline. The National Park Service hopes to reverse this trend with restoration projects in the parks.



13. Conservation Summary—Stop thirteen

Hiking Mullinaw Trails, you have seen water, trees, plants, birds, soils, which are our most prized commodities. "Our goal at the National Park Service is to preserve and protect our finest resources." Please help us preserve our parks for future generations.

Happy Trails!



In every walk with nature

*one receives far more than he
seeks.*

-John Muir